CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for managing access to a set of applications associated with a universal resource locator, the method comprising:

receiving a request, wherein the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification; and

directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the universal resource locator and the user identification.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the user identification is an Internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the user identification is a user name located within the request.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

replacing the selected application with a new selected application.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the new selected application is a new version of the selected application.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein each application within the set of applications is assigned to a different universal resource locator and wherein the directing step comprises:

identifying the set of applications using the universal resource locator;

identifying the selected application based on the user identification; and

sending the request to the selected application using an assigned universal resource locator assigned to the selected applications.

7. A method in a data processing system for managing access to a plurality of applications, the method comprising:

associating the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator;

assigning the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator;

receiving a request including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user; and

redirecting the request using the first universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications using a particular universal resource locator associated with the particular application based on the identification.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the identification is a user name.

10. A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive a request in which the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification; and direct the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the universal resource locator and the user identification.

11. A data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to associate the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator; assign the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator; receive a request including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user; and redirect the request using the first universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications using a particular universal resource locator associated with the particular application based on the identification.

12. A data processing system for managing access to a set of applications associated with a universal resource locator, the data processing system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request, wherein the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification; and

directing means for directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the universal resource locator and the user identification.

13. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the user identification is an Internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.

14. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein the user identification is a user name located within the request.

15. The data processing system of claim 12 further comprising:

replacing means for replacing the selected application with a new selected application.

16. The data processing system of claim 15, wherein the new selected application is a new version of the selected application.

17. The data processing system of claim 12, wherein each application within the set of applications is assigned to a different universal resource locator and wherein the directing means comprises:

first identifying means for identifying the set of applications using the universal resource locator;

second identifying means for identifying the selected application based on the user identification; and

sending means for sending the request to the selected application using an assigned universal resource locator assigned to the selected applications.

18. A data processing system for managing access to a plurality of applications, the data processing system comprising:

associating means for associating the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator;

assigning means for assigning the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator;

receiving means for receiving a request including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user; and

redirecting means for redirecting the request using the first universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications using a particular universal resource locator associated with the particular application based on the identification.

19. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.

20. The data processing system of claim 18, wherein the identification is a user name.

21. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing access to a set of applications associated with a universal resource locator, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving a request, wherein the request includes the universal resource locator and a user identification; and

second instructions for directing the request to a selected application within the set of applications using the universal resource locator and the user identification.

22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the user identification is an Internet Protocol address of a node originating the request.

23. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the user identification is a user name located within the request.

24. The computer program product of claim 21 further comprising:

third instructions for replacing the selected application with a new selected application.

25. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein the new selected application is a new version of the selected application.

26. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein each application within the set of applications is assigned to a different universal resource locator and

wherein the second instructions comprises:

first sub-instructions for identifying the set of applications using the universal resource locator;

second sub-instructions for identifying the selected application based on the user identification; and

third sub-instructions for sending the request to the selected application using an assigned universal resource locator assigned to the selected applications.

27. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for managing access to a plurality of applications, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for associating the plurality of applications with a first universal resource locator;

second instructions for assigning the plurality of applications with plurality of universal resource locators excluding the first universal resource locator;

third instructions for receiving a request including the first universal resource locator and an identification of a user; and

fourth instructions for redirecting the request using the first universal resource locator to a particular application within the plurality of applications using a particular universal resource locator associated with the particular application based on the identification.

28. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the identification is an Internet Protocol address.

29. The computer program product of claim 27, wherein the identification is a user name.